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October 23, 1959

MEMO: URGENT

TO: HH JCW

SUBJECT: Telegram re visit of Mr. R. Salat, Director of Cultural Activities, UNESCO, Paris

I gather from the attached telegram received today that you have done nothing about contacting Mr. Salat, as I asked you to do in my memo of October 4, on his arrival in New Delhi on October 17.

I suppose it is quite needless to say that I am additionally shocked at this - if it is possible to be any more shocked than I am already over the whole situation which has arisen here in regard to the work you personally authorized me to do.

There is still time to retrieve the situation, as the telegram indicates he can be reached at the Connemara Hotel in Madras just before coming here November 4 . If you do not wish to see him, and to back out of the invitation, then surely he is entitled to some note of regret from you about your changed schedule suddenly not permitting - or something to that effect. After all, he did re-arrange his schedule in order to accept your invitation.

I ask you, please, whatever you do or do not do, please keep me informed. My professional reputation for straight dealing at all times is at stake in a situation like this, and I am not at all happy about being needlessly put into the current situation - for what reason - considering my months of devoted work for you and the obvious excellent effect of this work - I still cannot fathom. I am aware of the local political situation and at least some of the restrictions placed upon you and your family and I am most sympathetic with you all. But there are quiet ways of getting around such restrictions so that matters such as the current one need not do you harm. In this case, as in the matter of the Holiday assignment I arranged with your permission and which you backed out of, your public relations is damaged, future cooperation risked, - and in this case, your future relations with UNESCO, for which we had such high hopes. I shouldn't have to be explaining this to you in words of one syllable, JCW!

One more point: When I spent some time with Mr. Nehru in June in Ooty, I promised him, as I reported to you, to keep closely in touch with him about the various things I hoped could be done here in terms of increasing East-West understanding. I have now long delayed another report to him in the hope that the situation here would be straightened out, some logical explanation given, or that, at least, we could get together and work out what to say about why I am here and not in touch with you, which would not put you in a bad light. And I can't much longer delay in letting Krishna Menon know where I am, either. I have to make some kind of an explanation; my inclination, as always, is just to tell the simple truth. But in this case, that will be most harmful to you. So once again I ask you to guide me in this matter so that your interests, and incidentally mine, can be protected.

Meantime, as ever, my cordial regards,

Julie Medlock

Julie Medlock

P.S. Considerable interesting mail has come in on contacts we made. Do you want it, or shall I file and forget it?